

*DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois*



**COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS
April 19, 2023**

The DeKalb County Board met in regular session at the Legislative Center's Gathertorium on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Chair Willis called the meeting to order, and the Clerk called the roll. Those present were Board Members Meryl Domina, Laurie Emmer, Vice-Chair John Frieders, Ben Haier, Rhonda Henke, Savannah Ilenikhena, Kathy Lampkins, Maureen Little, Joe Marcinkowski, Stewart Ogilvie, Jerry Osland, Roy Plote, Amber Quitno, Ellingsworth Webb, Tim Bagby, Scott Campbell, Mary Cozad, Rukisha Crawford, Patrick Deutsch, and Chair Suzanne Willis. Board Members Jim Luebke, Terri Mann-Lamb, Michelle Pickett, and Chris Porterfield were absent at the time of roll call. There was a quorum established with twenty Members present and four absent.

Domina led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

It was moved by Emmer and seconded by Deutsch to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice Vote

Chair Willis called for a voice vote on the motion to approve as presented. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion

Crawford moved to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2023 County Board Meeting. Cozad seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

The Chair asked for a voice vote on the approval of the minutes. All Members voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Member Jim Luebke arrived. There were now twenty-one Members present and three absent.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Employee Service Awards – April 2023

The Board recognized and congratulated the following County Employees for their service to DeKalb County Government: Five Years: Suzanne Collins – State's Attorney's Office, Ryan Wallis – Sheriff's Office; Ten Years: Steve Barnaby – Sheriff's Office, Matthew Marks – Sheriff's Office; Thirty-Five Years: Steve O'Bryan – Rehab & Nursing Center.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Melissa Gilson, Sycamore Township, shared with the County Board multiple issues that she has encountered with a neighbor, who is also a DeKalb County Board Member. Gilson expressed that no one should have to live in their current conditions and hoped for peace and respect going forward. **Please see Exhibit A for detailed comments.**

Dr. Todd Gilson, Sycamore Township, requested that the County Board appeal for the adoption of a nuisance / noise Ordinance in DeKalb County. He additionally relayed issues that he and his neighbors have had with a neighbor, who is also a County Board Member. He stated his goal was to have the behavior of Ms. Quitno directed at this family, and neighbors who dread the same retaliation they have experienced, to stop. **Please see Exhibit B for detailed comments.**

Heather Tomlinson, Sycamore, shared that she is a social work student at AU. For her final she chose to write about harsher punishments for sexual offenses. In her research, she found some very disturbing things about DeKalb County and wanted to address them with the County. Tomlinson provided examples of cases within DeKalb County where offenders had been charged with lesser punishments than those of sexual assault offenses. She also questioned why DeKalb County Judges are protecting offenders and keeping them off the registry.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion

It was moved by Emmer and seconded by Ilenikhena to approve the following appointments:

- a. **Fire Protection Districts**
 - Malta Community Fire Protection District: Steve Almburg appointed for a three-year term beginning May 1, 2023 and expiring April 30, 2026.
 - DeKalb Community Fire Protection District: Steve Bemis appointed for a three-year term beginning May 1, 2023 and expiring April 30, 2026.
- b. **Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E911):** Jim Winters appointed to complete a four-year term Expiring December 31, 2023.
- c. **Board of Review**
 - Board of Review: Dan Cribben reappointed for a two-year term beginning June 1, 2023 and expiring May 31, 2025.
 - Board of Review: John Linderoth reappointed for a two-year term beginning June 1, 2023 and expiring May 31, 2025.
 - Board of Review - Alternates: Donald Thomas reappointed for a one-year term beginning June 1, 2023 and expiring May 31, 2024.
- d. **Farmland Assessment Review Board:** Dave Schafer appointed for a three-year term beginning May 1, 2023 and expiring April 30, 2026.
- e. **Regional Plan Commission**
 - Kirkland: Dan Chambers appointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.
 - Kingston: Frank Altmaier reappointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.
 - DeKalb County: Suzanne Willis appointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.
 - Somonauk: Becky Morphey reappointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.

- Genoa: Alyssa Seguss reappointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.
 - Cortland: Brandy Williams appointed for a one-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2024
- f. **Regional Plan Commission Alternates**
- Kirkland: Ryan Block appointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.
 - Kingston: Joe Hengels appointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.
 - DeKalb County: Terri Mann-Lamb reappointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.
 - Genoa: Janice Melton reappointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2023 and expiring March 31, 2026.

Voice Vote

All Members voted aye. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Resolution R2023-037: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Highway Department Roof Restoration Project to Energy Resource Roofing, of Chillicothe, Illinois in the amount of \$140,400

Motion

Deutsch moved that the DeKalb County Board hereby awards the lowest bid meeting specifications to Energy Resource Roofing of Chillicothe, Illinois for the cleaning, preparation, waterproofing, and coating of existing 39,000 sq. ft. DeKalb County Highway Department's building roof in the amount of \$140,400. Emmer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

The Chair called for a roll call vote. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-038: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Chicago Road Culvert Replacement Project to Martin & Company Excavating, of Oregon, Illinois in the amount of \$65,923

Motion

Deutsch moved that the DeKalb County Board does hereby award the lowest bid meeting specifications to Martin & Company Excavating, of Oregon, Illinois for the removal and replacement of an existing pipe culvert on Chicago Road, 2.25 miles northwest of Rollo in the amount of \$65,923. Ilenikhena seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

A roll call vote was taken. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-039: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 DeKalb County Seal Coat Project to Helm Civil, of Freeport, Illinois in the amount of \$2,158,149.20

Motion

Deutsch moved that the DeKalb County Board hereby awards the lowest bid meeting specifications to Helm Civil of Freeport, Illinois for the application of 81 miles of seal coating to various County, Township, and Village roads in the amount of \$2,269,221.95. Marcinkowski seconded the motion as presented.

Roll Call Vote

A roll call vote was taken by the Clerk. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-040: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 DeKalb County Pavement Marking Project to Countryman Inc., of Rockford, Illinois in the amount of \$298,239.50

Motion

Deutsch moved that the DeKalb County Board does hereby award the lowest bid meeting specifications to Countryman Inc., of Rockford, Illinois for the material and application of yellow and white paint pavement markings to various County, Township, and Village roads in the amount of \$314,473.50. Webb seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

The Chair called for a roll call vote. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-041—A Resolution Awarding the 2023 DeKalb County Rejuvenator Project to Corrective Asphalt Material LLC, of South Roxana, Illinois in the amount of \$447,477.42

Motion

Deutsch moved that the DeKalb County Board hereby awards the lowest bid meeting specifications to Corrective Asphalt Material LLC, of South Roxana, Illinois for the material and application of Rejuvenator-Reclamite and Rejuvenator-CRF on various roads in County, Township, and Village roads in the amount of \$447,477.42. Lampkins seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

The Chair called for a roll call vote. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

Deutsch made a motion for Resolutions R2023-042 through R2023-051 to be considered in omnibus fashion as all of them deal with HMA Overlay Project awards from the Highway Committee. Luebke seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion

Deutsch moved that the DeKalb County Board hereby approves the following Resolutions:

Resolution R2023-042: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 DeKalb County HMA Overlay Project to Advanced Asphalt Co., of Princeton, Illinois in the amount of \$646,313.80

Resolution R2023-043: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Clinton Road District HMA Overlay Project to Advanced Asphalt Co., of Princeton, Illinois in the amount of \$145,511.45

Resolution R2023-044: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Cortland Road District HMA Overlay Project to Curran Contracting Company, of Crystal Lake, Illinois in the amount of \$341,362.30

Resolution R2023-045: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Franklin Road District HMA Overlay Project to Martin & Company Excavating, of Oregon, Illinois in the amount of \$65,542.50

Resolution R2023-046: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Pierce Road District HMA Overlay Project to Curran Contracting Company, of Crystal Lake, Illinois in the amount of \$170,302.70

Resolution R2023-047: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Shabbona Road District HMA Overlay Project to Martin & Company Excavating, of Oregon, Illinois in the amount of \$72,151.80

Resolution R2023-048: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 South Grove Road District HMA Overlay Project to Martin & Company Excavating, of Oregon, Illinois in the amount of \$87,408.50

Resolution R2023-049: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Squaw Grove Road District HMA Overlay Project to Curran Contracting Company, of Crystal Lake, Illinois in the amount of \$137,775.92

Resolution R2023-050: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Sycamore Road District HMA Overlay Project to Peter Baker & Son Co., of Lake Bluff, Illinois in the amount of \$532,320.96

Resolution R2023-051: A Resolution Awarding the 2023 Victor Road District HMA Overlay Project to Curran Contracting Company, of Crystal Lake, Illinois in the amount of \$200,812.92

Emmer seconded the motion as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Chair Willis called for a roll call vote to approve Resolutions R2023-042 through R2023-051. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Ordinance O2023-011: An Ordinance Amending the County Recording Fee Schedule for a State Increase to the Rental Housing Support Program Surcharge

Motion

Campbell moved that the DeKalb County Board hereby approves to amend the County Recording Fee Schedule in order to increase the Rental Housing Support Program State (“RHSP”) surcharge for the recordation of any real estate-related document from nine dollars (\$9) to eighteen dollars (\$18). Crawford seconded the motion as presented.

Roll Call Vote

The Chair called for a roll call vote to approve the motion as presented. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-052: A Resolution Approving Amendments to the FY2023 Budget

Motion

Campbell moved that the DeKalb County Board does hereby approve to amend the FY2023 Budget to create a three-month budget for the DeKalb County Rehabilitation and Nursing Center (DCRNC) with the expectation that the sale will be finalized before the end of the first quarter of 2023. Cozad seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Chair Willis called for a roll call vote. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-053: A Resolution Approving the Delinquent Property Tax Sale of Parcel Number 08-23-280-004, Located in DeKalb, Illinois, to Libra Investments, Inc. in the Amount of Eight Hundred Twenty-One Dollars and Ninety-Eight Cents

Motion

Campbell moved to authorize the Chairman of the Board to execute a deed of conveyance of the County’s interest or authorize the cancellation of the appropriate Certificate of Purchase, on parcel #08-23-280-004, for the sum of \$821.98 to be paid to the Treasurer of DeKalb County Illinois, to be disbursed according to law. Webb seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion as presented. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. All Members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-054: A Resolution Approving the Payment of County Claims for April 2023, and Off-Cycle Claims Paid During the Previous Month, Including All Claims for Travel, Meals, and Lodging, in the amount of \$7,783,563.60

Motion

Campbell moved to approve the payment of claims for this month, and the off-cycle claims paid during the previous month, including all claims for travel, meals, and lodging, in the amount of \$7,783,563.60. Webb seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Chair Willis asked for a roll call vote on the motion to approve the April 2023 Claims. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports of County Officials

Motion

Campbell moved to accept and place on file the following Reports of County Officials:

1. Cash & Investments in County Banks – March 2023
2. Public Defender’s Report – March 2023
3. Adult & Juvenile Monthly Reports – March 2023
4. Pretrial Report – March 2023
5. Sheriff’s Jail Report – March 2023
6. Building Permits & Construction Reports – March 2023

Ilenikhena seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

The Chair requested a voice vote to accept the Reports of County Officials as presented. All Members present voted aye. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Resolution R2023-055: A Resolution Authorizing an Open Purchasing Order for FY2023 Health Department Related Advertising and Marketing with SHAW Media of Crystal Lake, Illinois, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000

Motion

Vice-Chair Frieders moved that the DeKalb County Board hereby authorizes an Open Purchasing Order for FY2023 Health Department related advertising and marketing with SHAW Media of Crystal Lake, Illinois, in the amount not to exceed \$200,000. Deutsch seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Chair Willis called for a roll call vote. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-056: A Resolution Authorizing the County Administrator to Execute the Certificate of Need for Submission to Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board and any Ancillary Documents to Secure a Date Certain Transactional Closing

Motion

Vice-Chair Frieders moved that the DeKalb County Board hereby authorizes the County Administrator to execute the Certificate of Need for submission to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board and any ancillary documents to secure a date certain transactional closing for the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center. Webb seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

After a brief overview from County Administrator Gregory, Chair Willis called for a roll call vote on the motion as presented. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R2023-057: A Resolution Approving A Metropolitan Alliance of Police, Chapter #318 Labor Contract for the Communications, Corrections, Detectives, Patrol Divisions of the Sheriff's Office

Motion

Vice-Chair Frieders moved that the DeKalb County Board does hereby approve the Metropolitan Alliance of Police, Chapter #318 Labor Contract for the Communications, Corrections, Detectives, Patrol Divisions of the Sheriff's Office for a four-year term (January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026). Emmer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

A roll call vote was taken. Those voting aye were Board Members Domina, Emmer, Frieders, Haier, Henke, Ilenikhena, Lampkins, Little, Luebke, Marcinkowski, Ogilvie, Osland, Plote, Quitno, Webb, Bagby, Campbell, Cozad, Crawford, Deutsch, and Chair Willis. None were opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

Chair Willis announced that at last week's Special County Board Meeting there were a number of Board Members who did not vote during the appointment of Marcinkowski as DeKalb County Board Member – District 11, although it was not stated during the meeting. She added that the minutes would reflect that the appointment was approved by voice vote, but not unanimously.

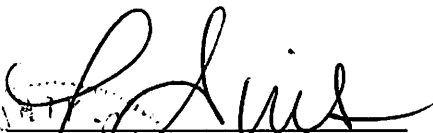
ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Quitno moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Crawford seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

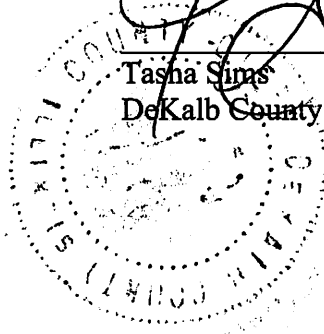
The motion to adjourn the meeting carried unanimously.



Tasha Sims
DeKalb County Clerk



Suzanne Willis
DeKalb County Board Chair



Good evening,

- I am Melissa Gilson of 1712 Sterling Dr. in Sycamore Township. I want to thank the board for your time tonight.

-This is a very difficult subject to broach, but is important that all know what has been going on.

-I am here this evening to discuss the Decorum of Board Members as found in Sec. 2-12 of the County Board Rules. It states: *All members shall comport themselves in a manner befitting that of an elected public official. Members shall be respectful of one another, of County staff, and of those members of the public whom they serve.* (That includes us.)

-I would like to remind the board that a statement that is true cannot be defamatory. As well, all of what I am about to discuss has been reported to the sheriff's office for the open case file #2022-01238 in Dekalb County.

-We have had countless issues with one of the new board members. I will share three tonight, unfortunately there are many more. Our first issue involves her cranking her surround sound speakers so loudly that it sounds like a rock concert in our backyard. When we ask her to turn it down her response is "*I don't have to because we live in the township.*" When we called the Sheriff's office to ask her to turn it down, she told them the same thing. Just because something isn't explicitly forbidden doesn't mean it is the right thing to do. A reasonable and respectful board member understands this.

-Moreover, this board member has engaged in intimidation when she came up to the edge of our property line while I was working in the garden alone, stared right at me and said into her phone, "*That's what she gets for messing with me.*" Now let's just pretend that she wasn't directing that at me, it is still alarming and disturbing, and she still said it about someone. This is unacceptable behavior for a board member.

-This board member has also acted in an unreasonable manner when she was in her driveway, cranked the music in her vehicle as loud as she could until I looked up, and then started screaming the lyrics of her hard rock music directly at me. She then gave a smirk, a wave and drove off. Being a board member comes with the inherent responsibility of being an example to the rest of the community. This is hardly conducting oneself in a manner befitting of an elected public official.

-We understand that we are taking a considerable risk of retaliation and retribution for choosing to speak up and that the bullying will likely increase with us coming forward.

However, no one should have to live in our current conditions. We have the right to enjoy our property in peace and expect that from now on Ms. Amber Quitno will follow the expected decorum and be respectful of us--the public whom she has sworn to serve. Thank you.

Good evening, my name is Dr. Todd Gilson and I reside at 1712 Sterling Dr. in Sycamore Township.

I want to begin by thanking the board for the opportunity to speak tonight about such an important matter. I come before the board to appeal for the adoption of a nuisance / noise ordinance in DeKalb County. This matter is of considerable importance for us and others in our neighborhood, based on the behavior of a current board member.

Ordinances addressing nuisances / noise are far from unique in Illinois, as a quick internet search will produce these types of ordinances for counties near (or in some cases adjacent to) DeKalb County, such as:

- Lake
- McHenry
- and Will Counties

I am also happy to provide the board with copies of these ordinances for review.

In addition, these adopted ordinances often build upon established Illinois Criminal Code and Illinois Compiled Statutes. In particular:

- Chapter 720, Article 26 of the Illinois Criminal Code reads, “A person commits disorderly conduct when he or she knowingly does any act in such unreasonable manner as to alarm or disturb another...”
- And Chapter 415, Section 24 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes states, “No person shall emit beyond the boundaries of his property any noise that unreasonably interferes with the enjoyment of life or with any lawful business or activity.”

As Ms. Gilson conveyed, the behavior by Ms. Quitno is encompassed in both of these definitions, resonates to others in the neighborhood, and can be documented over an extended period of time. As such, I believe the board is compelled to act expeditiously to address this issue.

It is also important to note, we have made earnest attempts in conflict resolution over nearly three years though dialogue, attempting to ignore the music of Ms. Quitno, and most recently through professional landscaping on our west property line at a cost of \$12,840. Unfortunately, each of these has only served to embolden Ms. Quitno’s actions, most recently with the DeKalb County Sheriff office stating there was nothing they could do to stop the music (even profane music) without the passage of a nuisance / noise ordinance.

In closing, my goal here tonight is simple, to have the behavior of Ms. Quitno directed at our family – and the neighbors who dread the same retaliation we experience – stop. These are things that no one should be concerned about, especially if living next to an elected official.

As the elected representatives of the county, I trust the board will attend to this request for the adoption of a nuisance / noise ordinance with care and thoughtfulness for the members they serve, as well as closely monitor the behavior of Ms. Quitno going forward. Thank you.